(c) The total amount of rent paid till 1st Karkadagam 1121 is Rs. 1,60,370—8—6. There has been some delay in paying the rents due to unavoidable technical reasons such as fixing of rent and taking out rent certificate from the Public Works Department. The delay in some cases is also due to refusal of the owners to accept the rent fixed by the Government at first and subsequently they agree to it when payment is possible only after preaudit of the claims. In such cases amounts drawn from the Treasury for payment have even to be remitted back to be drawn again after the owners accept the rent fixed by the Government.

(d) 43 godowns for the use of Cochin Government. 33 for Travancore Government. No godown for Imperial Government and others.

2. STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH REGARDING HIS RESIGNATION

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Minister for Public Health):* Mr. President, Sir, I wish to make a statement.

I have implemented the desire of this House by tendering to His Highness the Maharaja the resignation of my office as Minister for Public Health. During my tenure of my office for some time as sole Minister of the State and for a period of about three months with the help of my colleague, Hon'ble Mr. Balakrishna Menon, the Development Minister, I have been striving my utmost for the advancement of Full Responsible Government under the aegis of His Highness the Maharaja, for safeguarding the civil liberties of His Highness' subjects and for promoting the welfare and happiness of the people of the State, especially the poor, labouring and the socalled Depressed Classes. I have been discharging my duties faithfully, loyally and to the best of my ability, carrying out the wish of His Highness the Maharaja, which I am confident, is the welfare and happiness of his subjects. In the discharge of my duties as Minister, I have had the fullest co-operation from you, Sir Diwan President, and I am happy to acknowledge that our relationship has been through out marked with extreme cordiality. I must also acknowledge the fullest support I have received from the different sections of this House, especially from the Members of the Nationalist Party.

I am greatful to this House for expressing in unmistakable terms the fact that their decision of yesterday (7th August 1946) has not been taken on account of any personal grounds or for any drawback in the administration of the departments entrusted to my care, but that the alleged ground is only that I have not been promoting the cause of Full Responsible Government in the fashion they wanted. I may state here that I am a full believer in responsive co-operation. And it is in this spirit that I have been discharging my duties as Minister of the State, solicitous at the same time to achieve our common objective. I am not for destruction, but for constructive progress. Hence there may be difference between some of us in the method of action. It does not mean therefore that I or my Party are not equally zealous for attaining Full Responsible Government. And you know, Sir, that I have been earnestly endeavouring in this direction, though with due respect to the solemn trust placed in me, I am not entitled to disclose all that I have been doing to establish Full Responsible Government as early as possible. I can assure this House that I will continue to serve the interests of the people and of my country without fear or favour, without seeking for applause, honour or reward.

Mr. K. Balakrishna Menon *(Minister for Development):* I have no statement to make, Sir.

3. VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

1—4—Village Panchayats

Mr. President: The Hon'ble Ministers having resigned and there being no Ministers present to answer the points raised in respect of transferred departments I want to know whether the Hon'ble Members wish to proceed in the order in which the demands appear on the Agenda paper or whether it would be better to pass over the Village Panchayats now and go straight on to Miscellaneous.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With regard to that, Sir, we feel that we follow as it is.

Mr. President: In that case it may be taken in the order in which it appears in the agenda provided Hon'ble Members are satisfied with the replies from the Secretaries in charge of the respective departments.

Mr. M. K. Raja *(Mulakunnathukavu):* We may pass over the Panchayats now.

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